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Care and Use of Porcelain Enameled Ware

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Source: *The American Journal of Nursing*, Vol. 47, No. 8 (Aug., 1947), p. 534

Published by: [Lippincott Williams & Wilkins](#)

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/3457329>

Accessed: 09/08/2013 08:35

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about the efficiency of relief organizations in the United States, there is none now. It has been wonderful to see all these great boxes and crates arriving at our doors marked "Assam," "Calcutta," "Kunming" and other fabulous places, and to see the Red Cross relief supplies marked with the names of little towns from Maine to California. Many of our blankets and quilts are obviously from the homes of ordinary people at home who wished to share with others what they had. Even more wonderful has been the contact with representatives of these various organizations.

Probably the slowest and most difficult of all rehabilitation is spiritual rebirth. The war years of terror and deprivation have brought strength to a few, but to most people it has been completely demoralizing and the spirit of self-less service is still rare. Greed and graft in government organizations are bound to extend down to individuals. Gifts of material things, however valuable, can never take the place of devoted personnel; for this reason Hsiang-Ya Medical Center has welcomed

most heartily the services of UNRRA personnel who have contributed their skill and time as well as their fine spirit. Contact with sincere, unselfish specialists has been a contribution fully as important as the wonderful material gifts they brought.

Slowly the wheels are turning. The resurrection has begun. Everywhere there is the sound of carpenters' hammers and saws, for the roof is being rebuilt and work has started on a new wing for the great crowds of patients we see every day. Almost two hundred students fill the new nursing school to overflowing, and the medical college has three large new buildings and 270 students. Ruins have disappeared, and new houses are standing where there was a jungle. The new life is beginning here and everywhere in China—in spite of inflation, civil war and corruption—and nothing will stop it. This is rehabilitation, and you at home who gave so generously to the relief organizations are responsible for a great share of it. Not only the things you gave but also the spirit in which you gave them are bearing fruit.

cloth. If food or chemicals do occasionally adhere to the sides of a vessel, water brought to a boil in the container will sufficiently loosen all particles so that they can quickly be washed away as described.

While enameled utensils do not stain easily, some—like the coffee pot—will acquire some discoloration after long use. This may be remedied by rubbing the portion discolored with a paste of common baking soda and water or boiling with a small amount of soda. If the tea kettle needs freshening, a mild solution of vinegar and water may be boiled in it.

**P**AINTED or covered shelves are an ideal storage place for all utensils, whether they are used in kitchens, operating rooms, laboratories, or wards. Placed side by side on shelves, the utensils are less likely to be subjected to rough treatment than when they are hung on hooks. When the latter are used for storage, a small piece of white adhesive tape or rubber wrapped around the lower part of the hook will prevent it from scratching the utensil. Although enameled ware may be nested without injury to the surface, it is inadvisable to stack basins, as those on the bottom of the pile tend to lose their shape, especially if a great number are stacked together.

**Temperature Considerations.** Porcelain enameled utensils are known to require a minimum of fuel in the heating of solutions, foods, or medications, since the high-quality steel and enamel construction favors an even distribution of heat. For this reason, a lower flame or less heat should be used after the contents of the vessel have been brought to a boil. The contents will heat just as rapidly, fuel will be saved, and the utensil is not so likely to boil dry. If a utensil should happen to boil dry, it should not be plunged from the hot range into cold water. It should be allowed to cool and then should be soaked in warm water before washing.

It is suggested that handles of all utensils on the stove be turned toward the back. This precaution will not only serve as a safeguard against spilling hot substances on the person using the utensil, but will also protect the utensil from the unnecessary abuse incurred in being knocked to the floor.

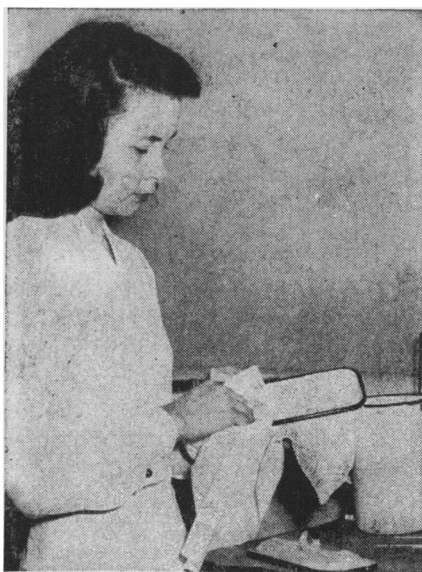
While there are more suggestions covering this subject, these listed are the most important. If these simple rules are followed, much time and work will be saved, and these articles will give long and satisfactory service.—LEE SEABOLT, Lawrence H. Selz Organization, Inc., 221 N. LaSalle Street, Chicago, Ill.

## Care and Use of Porcelain Enameled Ware

**A**MONG their many responsibilities, nurses frequently must know how to care for, as well as use, numerous types of hospital equipment. Enameled porcelain ware, widely used in hospitals because it is durable, nonporous, stain-resistant, and, perhaps most important of all, easy to clean and care for, is a case in point.

The manufacturers of porcelain enameled ware believe that if nurses are educated in the use of this product, the result will be that all hospital utensils will give longer and more efficient service. They also feel that a general but basic knowledge of the construction of porcelain enameled ware will be useful.

**Construction.** To produce this type of ware a piece of special quality steel which has been cut to the correct proportions is pressed into the shape of the utensil by the use of a mould or dies. Sharp edges are rounded off, and the steel is polished free of irregularities and spun in an enamel bath until evenly coated. After the enamel coating has dried, the beaded edges are trimmed in attractive colors. The utensil is then baked in a firing oven; the intense heat fuses the enamel with the steel base. The resultant glass-like finish is responsible for occasional reference to the product



Lawrence H. Selz Organization  
Porcelain utensils are easily cleaned.

as being of glass-over-steel construction.

**Care of Equipment.** One common mistake among handlers of porcelain enameled ware is the use of coarse abrasives for cleaning. The glassy surface of these utensils is easily cleaned with just hot soapy water. Swish the utensil in a soapy water solution, rinse in clear water, and wipe with a dry